supplementary questions took longer time than at this meeting. We used to take the full one hour and at times more for 30 questions, owing to want of proper answers.

Bill to amend the Cochin Code of Civil Procedure.

President.—We shall now proceed to the next item in the agenda.

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar.—Sir, I beg to move that the Cochin Civil Procedure Code as amended by the Select Committee and the Council be taken up and passed.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—I second it.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill to amend the Cochin Telephone Regulation.

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar.—I beg to move that the Cochin Telephone Regulation Amendment Bill be taken up and passed.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—I second it.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill to amend the Cochin Salt Regulation.

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar.—Sir, I again beg to move that the Cochin Salt Regulation Amendment Bill be taken up and passed.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—I second it.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill to amend the Cochin Abkari Regulation.

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar.—I beg to move that the Cochin Abkari Regulation Amendment Bill be taken up and passed.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—I second it.

Question put and agreed to.

Amendments to Standing Orders.

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar.—Sir, I further beg to move that the Amendments to the Standing Orders, be taken up and passed.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—I second it.

Question put and agreed to.

Resolutions on matters of General Public Interest—(*cont.*)

24. Trichur Play Ground—(*cont.*)

President.—We shall now begin discussion of resolutions

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Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Sir, we are on a question of providing play grounds in all important centres for our boys. It wasyesterday pointed out in this House that the Trichur Palace ground, which from time immemorial has been used by the student population of Trichur as a playground, has of late been ordered by the Government to be set aside for some purpose of the Palace. Since it is a ground that belongs to the Palace, we have absolutely no case in its being appropriated for any purpose of the Palace. That is not the question at issue. The question is, if that Palace ground, with all its natural facilities, I mean to say, its beautiful earthen walls all round, from where people could witness the sports and atheletic games, is to be no more a play ground, should we not have a good substitute for it at Trichur? The providing of a play ground at Ramavarmapuram is no solution, as has already been pointed out. The boys of Trichur want a place at Trichur where they can play. Sir, it is no good to say that they can run three or four miles, and go to Ramavarmapuram and play there and come back by sun-set. And this question of the play ground is not a problem of Trichur alone. Sir, in this metropolis, I mean to say, at Ernakulam, have we got a proper play ground? There is none. A couple of years back when I asked the then Director of Public Instruction to request the Cochin Athletic Association to conduct the sports and foot-ball tournaments alternatively at Trichur and at Ernakulam, I was given the reply that that could not be complied with because there was no proper ground at Ernakulam. Sir, the only ground available in Ernakulam is the Darbar Hall ground. That ground is not sufficiently wide and long even to play foot-ball and the construction of a band shed just on the eastern side of the Darbar Hall has cut down the ground in its width. Formerly, we had the beach where we had our inter-school tournaments and sports conducted and a race course particularly constructed there for this purpose. Now all this place has been converted into the Irwin Park with the result that this metropolis is short of a proper play ground. The question of providing suitable play grounds for our children in all important centres is therefore a problem which ought to be looked into at once by the Government. In the past, for some reason or other, Government had been, I should say, negligent in this matter. That ought not to be so. The European sailors who came here to play a foot-ball match said that the Palace ground was not sufficiently long and broad; and that the ground was not properly kept. It is uneven in many places and the soil is so sandy that one gets tired before the half time. Therefore, I request that the Government may at once look into the

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question of providing good, decent, big play grounds in all important centres in the State.

Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—Sir, in further supporting the resolution, I have only to add a few words. I am very sorry to hear that, when a request was made to the Government that the Palace grounds may be further improved for conducting the athletic exercises of the students, the Government not only did not find its way to make the necessary improvements but also prohibited the future use of the ground and asked the parties to shift for themselves. But, thanks to the sympathetic consideration of the question by the present Diwan, I am very glad to find that the prior order has been kept in abeyance until a satisfactory and good ground is provided for at Ramavarmapuram. But the present resolution seeks to reconsider that matter further on the ground that the proposal to have a good play ground at Ramavarmapuram is not at all a solution of the question, because any ground which will be provided for at Ramavarmapuram could not be properly utilised for the purpose of the public of Trichur. There is absolutely no difficulty so far as the Government is concerned. If the Palace grounds are to be utilised for the purpose of the Palace, I do not think that any other difficulty could stand in the way. The demand of the public of Trichur cannot certainly stand in the way if the Palace really wants the grounds to be utilised for the purpose of the Trichur Palace. But until such a contingency arises, I do not see any reason why the public should be prohibited from using the Palace grounds as before; and I do not think that, since the public have been using it for such a long time, I would even say from time immemorial, and since they have almost acquired a right of easement, so to say, on the ground, I do not think that the Palace would stand in the way of the continuation of utilising it for their sports. My submission is that till the Palace really wants these grounds for their purpose, the Palace grounds should be allowed to be used freely by the public of Trichur. With these words, I support the resolution.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Sir, I beg to support this resolution and in doing so I wish the Government would, in their reply, tell us whether this Palace at Trichur is being occupied at all.

President.—That is not the question here. The question is about a play ground at Trichur.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—The Palace Maidan is the ground that is being used for sports. Now that Palace has not been used for a long time as Palace, and even when that was being used as Palace, this ground was being used by the children in Trichur. Lately, a large addition was made to the Palace by adding the

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whole Residency to the Palace. So there is ample ground there for Palace purpose. If all the proambokes are attached to the Palace and the children of the country who are the children of His Highness the Maharaja, as He stands in loco parentis, are not allowed any place, I say that is a very bad state of affairs. No reason can I find to take away this ground and prohibit it. After all we are in a sporting country. In Cochin we are now having a three days' holiday under the Educational Code of Cochin as these are sports days. So that, when a country is going into sports it will be only a good course on the part of the Government to set apart the available ground without any cost to the exchequer at the disposal of the sport-loving people. That is all I have to say. I can think of no ground why this should be taken away.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Sir, as the Member representing the locality, I would like to make my position clear. It is my personal opinion and I do not know whether I am representing the opinion of the Trichur public. I expect that it is the Palace ground ; I expect that the Government have the right to ask us to go out, and we feel very much obliged to the Government for allowing us to continue the play ground there. To take another place within the town is not so easy. I do not find any place unless you convert some of the paddy fields into play grounds. It would be costly also. Lately another Circular or order seems to have been issued by the Government to the effect that the parties concerned should select a site near Anappara or Ramavarmapuram. I can quite understand selecting a site when the College is established there which may take 3 or 4 years. Therefore, my request is we may be permitted to make use of this ground till we select a place in Anappara after the College has been established, because naturally then the interests of the student public will be diverted from the town of Trichur to that locality. It is only a question of the lack of ground. Otherwise we would like to make use of this place for 4 or 5 years more.

Mr. S. K. Subrahmania Ayyar.—Sir, regarding this question of play ground for Trichur there have been representaions to the Government and there have been public meetings in which resolutions have been passed. So far, the Palace ground has been used for sports competitions there and in the order dated 24th October 1930 the Government say, that they are pleased to order that the public play ground would be included in the Ramavarmapuram college scheme and that until this can be brought into existence, games may be played in the old Palace grounds as in the past. So, you will find that the desire of the

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Hon'ble Member for Trichur is here incorporated in the order that was issued on 24th October 1930. (*Hear, hear.*) If the Palace grounds are required for Palace purposes, although we have been using these Palace grounds as play grounds for so many years, we have to relinquish them for Palace purposes. It is not for us to ask as to why or for what Palace purposes it is required (*hear, hear.*) So, when once the Government said that it is required for Palace purposes, it will have to be given for Palace purposes. They also said that the public will be permitted to use the same Palace grounds until they are provided with another good play ground. Now, subsequently, the Chief Engineer was asked to find out whether there would be any suitable site very near Trichur merely because the public represented that it will be too long a distance. Of course the mover of the resolution read out certain extracts from the Committee, where the report says that these play grounds of schools must be situated within a distance of half a mile or so. (*Hear, hear.*) I believe it was in view of this representation made by the Cochin Athletic Association that the Government should have taken further steps to find out if suitable sites would be available. But the Chief Engineer reported that no suitable site was available within the town of Trichur except very near Viyyur. Viyyur is 3 miles from Trichur and Ramavarmapuram is also equally distant, and when the Ramavarmapuram College comes to fruition, then you will have the College teams and the high school teams also playing in the same ground and you will find there will be a certain healthy rivalry (*Hear, hear.*) between the high school teams and the town teams and the college teams in Ramavarmapuram. It would certainly be very desirable. You must understand that though the distance is 3 miles, no student will after all find it very difficult to walk such a distance. (*Laughter.*)

Dr. A. G. Menon.—We do not agree.

Mr. S. K. Subrahmania Ayyar.—And whenever there are such tournaments and sports competitions you will also find that the last period is generally free. They will go away in the afternoon in order to be present early enough for these competitions, and therefore I beg to submit that after all the question of the distance of 3 miles need not be considered so very seriously.

Now, in the latest order, dated 29th November 1930, you will find that even now Government are trying to get ready a big play ground either at Ramavarmapuram or nearer even and till then the games will be allowed to be played in the Palace grounds. I wish to tell the mover of this resolution that there will be no change of conditions for the next few years, and I

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hope he will be satisfied with the promise we have given. I hope he would, consistent with the dignity of the House, withdraw the resolution with the permission of the House.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—May I know whether the Government will be pleased to recondider to give us any other place than Ramavarmapuram? In that case I shall withdraw.

Mr. S. K. Subrahmania Ayyar.—Now we have tried and we have not got a site. If you can, you just take the responsibility of selecting a number of sites (*Hear, hear*) and ask us to choose; certainly we will do it, provided it is not prohibitively costly.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Sir, I am very sorry that I am not in a position to agree with the Government. What I really wanted is a play-ground where our children can practise sports—where they can practise sports daily and not where they can compete for tournaments. The arguments advanced by the Government are that there may not be difficulty for the students, and they will be willing also to walk 4 miles or more for the purpose of tournaments and that it will create healthy rivalry and so on. But the whole point that I want to bring to the notice of the Government and the House, the Hon'ble Member for Education missed. It is this. There should be in a central place in Trichur itself a playground where not only children attending the schools but even adults can play and it should not be, in the words of the Beasely Commission, more than half a mile distant. Sir, you are an Englishman and as such you must be a sportsman and I am sure you will appreciate our difficulties. I have only to tell you, Sir, that we are not so good sports loving people as you are. In fact many of the people think that it is a luxury of the rich. Many cannot afford it. There are some who positively discourage it. So much so we have to induce people to take to sports. Do you think seriously, does any one of the Members of this House think seriously that anybody would care to walk 3 or 4 miles from Trichur, play there for some time and walk back 3 or 4 miles? Do you think that there will be more than half a dozen or at the utmost a dozen men who can afford the luxury of conveyances for their children to go 4 miles and come back for the sake of sports. My submission is we are too poor in that matter, and, if you drive us to go to Ramavarmapuram and if you cannot provide a field in Trichur or near Trichur, the future generation will be, in the words of the Beasely Commission, of round shoulders, sunken chests, protruding abdomen, spinel curvature, and of careless shuffling gait which characterise so many school and college students. These are very pregnant words and we

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find as a matter of fact so many instances amongst us. My request is that the Government should find a place in a central place in Trichur. The only difficulty is money. If we put it off the value of land will increase. You will be compelled, by the force of public opinion, to provide Trichur with a playing field, if not now, at least in the near future. Now there are ever so many places where there are no buildings. But after a few years you will find it very difficult to find places where there are no buildings. Then the price will be prohibitive. In the interests of the future generation and on behalf of the manhood of Cochin and particularly that of Trichur, I request the Government to reconsider this matter and give us a ground in Trichur, regardless of the money that will have to be spent. If Government cannot accept this resolution, I request each and every Member of the Council to support my resolution and show to the Government the value we attach to sports in the bringing up of the future generation. (*Hear, hear.*)

The resolution was then put to the vote of the House and carried.

25. Reformatory for Juvenile offenders.

President.—The next resolution stands in the name of Mr. Manjuran.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Sir, my resolution is.—

"This Council recommends that a reformatory for juvenile offenders be opened without delay".

I am sorry to find that I should have been obliged to move this resolution twice within the course of 15 months. Once before I brought this resolution and I found the Government opposing it. I was very much surprised to find that Juvenile offenders are not entirely absent from Cochin and in this modern age, when it is considered a capital sin to send juvenile offenders to perdition by herding them with confirmed sinners, I thought no modern Government would oppose the resolution. Well, Sir, I have brought this again so as to bring this matter to the notice of the present administration. I am not going to submit this resolution to a vote. If the Government still thinks that a juvenile reformatory is not necessary in the State, let the Government take this responsibility. With that, I withdraw.

The resolution was therefore considered withdrawn.

26. Sunday an off duty day for Roman Catholic Christians.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—This again I am not goiag to move because we have a large number of resolutions coming. For want of time I am not going to move this also.

The resolution was therefore considered withdrawn.

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